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## OLR Bill Analysis

HB 5811

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF VESSELS WITH ELECTRIC MOTORS ON INLAND WATERS OF THE STATE.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

This bill allows people, in certain circumstances, to operate electric motor boats without having a safe boating certificate from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection or a valid operator license from the U.S. Coast Guard. It applies to a person who operates a boat with an electric motor on inland Connecticut waters where motor powered boats exceeding 10 horsepower are prohibited.

Under the bill, those same people can allow a child younger than 16 years old to operate the electric motor boat without a safe boating certificate. Under current law, boat owners cannot knowingly allow a child to operate a boat unless the child has a safe boating certificate or is being supervised by a person age 18 or older who has a safe boating certificate.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 28      Nay 0      (03/18/2013)